

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

## Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

### February, 2002

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Hampshire Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2001.*

### Residents of First Hampshire Representative District

#### **Treatment Admissions:**

In FY 2001, there were 120,687 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts. Of these, 0.8% (1,038) reside in the First Hampshire Representative District. Due to budget cuts in FY 2002, BSAS estimates that 19% (197) of First Hampshire Representative District residents will not be able to access treatment services. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.**

- In FY 2001, 70.7% of admissions from the First Hampshire Representative District were male and 29.2% were female.
- Over 56.7% of admissions were between the ages of 30-49.
- 83.8% of admissions were white non-Latino, 5.13% were black non-Latino, 9% were Latino, 0.23% were Asian and 1.7% were other racial categories.
- 58.9% of those admitted to treatment were never married, 11.6% were married, and 21.7% reported not to be married now.
- 21.1% of admissions had less than high school education, 43.1% completed high school, and 35.7% had more than high school education.
- 33.1% of those admitted to treatment were employed.
- 21.5% of those admitted were homeless.
- 20.1% of admissions had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Substances Used in Past Year:**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as 'polydrug' or 'polysubstance' use. For example, individuals who use cocaine, crack and heroin also may report the use of either alcohol and/or marijuana.

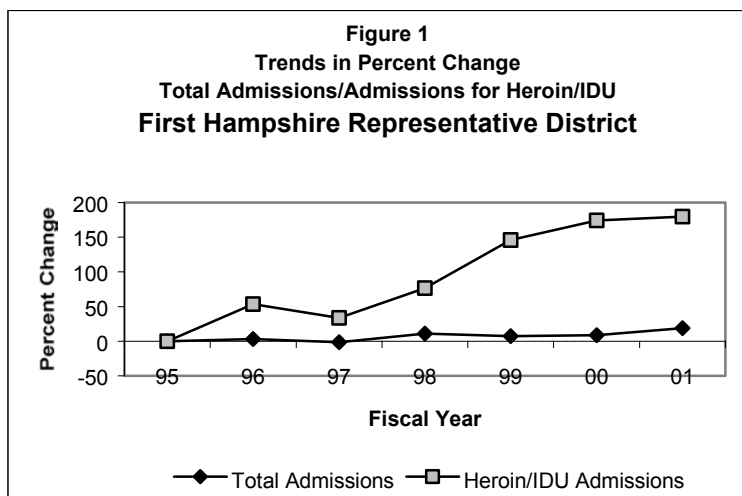
- Table 1 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug use (IDU) in the First Hampshire Representative District. Injection drug users (or IDU's) are individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 1</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used</b> <b>FY 1995 – FY 2001</b>							
<b>First Hampshire Representative District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	873	736	266	159	161	103	75
<b>FY '96</b>	901	755	281	200	146	161	112
<b>FY '97</b>	862	739	294	174	137	153	85
<b>FY '98</b>	967	826	340	212	144	188	126
<b>FY '99</b>	936	763	336	211	176	266	172
<b>FY '00</b>	947	750	309	217	190	288	200
<b>FY '01</b>	1,038	788	299	192	162	297	201

- Since FY 1995, residents of First Hampshire Representative District reported a steady increase in heroin use, and a slight increase in alcohol use. Heroin use increased by 188% and alcohol use by 7%.
- Between FY 1995 and FY 2001, admissions reporting marijuana use increased by 12%, and cocaine use by 20%, while crack use remained steady.

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use:

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Hampshire Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV<sup>1</sup>.



- Total treatment admission for all modalities rose 3% between FY 1995 and FY 2001. During the same period, admissions for heroin and injection drug use treatment increased by 59%.

### Primary Substance of Use:

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use which is the substance currently causing them the most problems.

- Table 2 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Hampshire Representative District.

	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	58.7%	27.7%	4.3%	1.7%	4.5%
State	46.4%	35.9%	6.5%	3.8%	3.4%

- While heroin, marijuana, and cocaine as a primary drug of use in your Representative District was lower than the State average, alcohol and crack was higher within your District.

<sup>1</sup> The Schneider Institute for Health Policy, Brandeis University, 2000